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February, 1912.

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EMPIRE DAY

IN

ONTARIO

THURSDAY, MAY 23rd, 1912



ONTARIO  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PRINTED BY ORDER OF  
THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TORONTO:  
Printed and Published by L. K. CAMERON, Printer to the King's  
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# EMPIRE DAY

## CANADA AND THE BRITISH EMPIRE

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**What is Empire Day?** That British subjects everywhere celebrate the history, traditions, character, unity and greatness of the British Empire on one particular day; that in 1910 at least 16,000,000 people joined in such a demonstration throughout the British dominions; that in Canada the movement originated and first received Legislative support, are facts of wide interest and permanent influence. The object of Empire Day—celebrated in Canada on May 23rd, because Victoria Day was a holiday, and in the rest of the Empire on May 24—is an educational and patriotic one. It aims to teach the youth in all British countries something of the origin and development of the Empire, of its obligations and responsibilities, of the greatness and usefulness of the world-flung political structure to which they belong; it aims to inculcate good citizenship, patriotic self-sacrifice, and the sacredness of an inherited trust. The watch-words of the Day as presented in the British Isles, and accepted everywhere, are the words: "Responsibility, Duty, Self-sacrifice"; the motto is, "One King, One Flag, One Fleet, One Empire."

**Origin of Empire Day.** Flag Day celebrations have long been held in the United States, and especially in Massachusetts; a similar movement with British characteristics ultimately developed in the Maritime Provinces of Canada. The Nova Scotia Council of Public Instruction, on August 16th, 1898, prescribed regulations for celebrating the day. On March 1st, 1899, the Ontario Department of Education established Empire Day, to be devoted to the study in the schools of the history of Canada in its relation to the British Empire. On May 15th, following, the Quebec Province Protestant Committee of Public Instruction passed a resolution declaring that "the day preceding the birthday of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen be specially observed with patriotic recitations



and exercises, and be designated Empire Day." In England, on April 25th, 1899, the Earl of Meath wrote to *The Times* suggesting the adoption of the Canadian idea. Lord Meath afterwards pressed the work enthusiastically, and on May 24th, 1904, the Day was celebrated for the first time in the United Kingdom. Thence the movement has spread to all parts of the Empire.

**Why Canada Celebrates Empire Day.** There are many reasons—some on the surface, and easily seen; some deep in the inherited patriotism of a widely-scattered and sea-sundered people who still cherish the history, traditions and loyalty of a thousand years. Pride in the growth and greatness of the Empire is a factor; appreciation of the beneficence and practical usefulness of British institutions is a sentiment common to both French and English Canadians; loyalty to a line of Sovereigns of high character and far-flung prestige and clear state-craft is an element; dependence upon British sea-power for the protection of Colonial trade and the maintenance of Colonial credit in the money-markets of the world is an obvious reason; the steady growth of trade interchange, of British financial investment in the Dominions, of personal inter-communication and of popular migration from the Mother-land to Canada are other reasons; an increasing knowledge of the fact that this is an age of great world-powers and not of isolated or separated communities is a potent force in promoting a feeling of Empire unity; glory in the Flag that has so long floated over Canadian development and preserved its people in the peaceful pursuits of material progress, is still another reason.

Empire Day, in short, embodies to a modern and busy people the sentiment which made the United Empire Loyalists desert homes and comforts and country for a land of loneliness and wilderness and pioneer privations; the sentiment which made the French-Canadians at the time of the American Revolution withstand the pleadings of emissaries from their own people across the seas and support Great Britain as the friendly guarantor of religion, language and laws; the feeling which enabled English and French alike to stand shoulder to shoulder in 1812 for the defence of their common country and the flag of Britain with its then loosely defined and recently disrupted Empire; the sentiment which resisted



both coercion and persuasion from the natural continental ambitions and policy of the United States over a long period of years; the feeling which reached a high tide of patriotism in the time of South African warfare; the sentiment, also, which loves peace and believes the British Empire to be the most unselfish, the most peace-requiring and peace-loving of all the great nations of the world; the profound belief that Britain has, with all her mistakes and all her faults, stood more clearly in the history of the world for the purest liberty and the highest ideals than any other country. In the words of Wilfrid Campbell:

We of the newer and vaster West  
 Where the great war-banners are furled,  
 And Commerce hurries her teeming hosts,  
 And the cannons are silent along our coasts;  
 Saxon and Gaul, Canadians claim  
 A part in the glory and pride and aim  
 Of the Empire that girdles the world.

**What is the British Empire?**      The greatness of the Empire is due to many causes. It is world-wide in area, in variety of natural riches, in diverging and converging populations, in sea-communication and far-flung battle line, in ever-growing power and responsibilities, in trade and financial interests and shipping, in difficulties of government, and in its touch with other nations and the rival forces of East and West. It is greatness built upon a liberty at home and in all its self-governing nations which has ever broadened slowly down from precedent to precedent and preferred evolution to revolution. It is a greatness in area created

(1) By daring navigators and explorers from the Motherland;

(2) By an ever-expanding commerce and shipping;

(3) By wars and conquest, caused sometimes by commercial rivalry, sometimes by national rivalry, sometimes by great world-wide forces such as the ambition of a Philip of Spain, or the genius of a Napoleon.

It is a greatness in the councils of the world to-day, built upon the supremacy of its Navy at sea and the knowledge of thinking and honest statesmen everywhere that the British



Navy is an instrument for (1) the protection of British commerce and scattered British countries; and (2) for peace through the fact of there being no great standing army behind the Navy for purposes of aggression. It is a greatness maintained by recognizing that all men within the Empire, of whatever race, creed or colour, are entitled to equality under the law of their respective countries, to strict and honest British justice impartially administered, to a pure and patriotic Civil Service free from corruption and degrading self-interest. It is a greatness which is conserved, unified and developed in prestige by its limited Monarchical system and the personal character of its Sovereigns.

The area of the British realms is nearly 12,000,000 square miles, or 21 per cent. of the earth's surface—exclusive of Egypt and the Soudan, which are practically, though not technically, dependencies of the Crown; its area in Europe is 125,079 square miles; in Asia, 1,899,300 square miles; in Africa, 2,518,508 square miles; in America, including the West Indies, 4,023,179 square miles; in Australasia, 3,175,632 square miles.

This great region contains every world-known variety of product, climate and natural characteristic. It has the greatest and best fisheries in every part of the globe, and, especially, in Canada; it includes the chief woollen product of the world, and the 91,000,000 sheep upon the thousand plains of Australia, produced in 1909 wool worth \$140,000,000; it has vast wheat areas in India, Canada and Australia, developed or undeveloped, which make it in a potential sense the chief source of the world's food supply—the United Kingdom receiving in 1910, out of only a preliminary development of the Empire's resources in this respect, \$135,920,000 worth of grain and flour, and Canada producing for home consumption and export together \$507,000,000 worth.

The Empire produces more gold than all the rest of the world put together—\$267,000,000 worth in 1908 as compared with \$189,000,000 elsewhere—with a total in the ten years preceding 1908 of \$1,990,000,000 produced under the British flag. In Australia, between 1861 and 1909, \$2,570,000,000 worth was taken out of the ground, and in Canada \$281,000,000 during the past half century; while the still untouched resources of the Empire in this respect are far richer than those of any other country or combination of countries.



It has a silver production marked by the rise of Cobalt in Canada, with its \$48,000,000 product in six years, or the record of Broken Hill in Australia, with its total product of \$288,708,000 up to the end of 1909; it had in 1909 a coal production in six of its countries totalling 298,000,000 tons, or more than all the chief producers of the world combined—outside of the United States—and with immense possibilities of production; it had in the same year a production of iron-ore and pig-iron totalling 26,500,000 tons, and this product is at the root of many vital industries. The Empire has an enormous industrial development indicated by the United Kingdom's export of manufactured goods in 1910 totalling \$1,914,000,000; by Australia's manufacturing output of \$535,000,000, used chiefly by its own people, and Canada's estimated output of \$1,000,000,000—also used mainly by its own people; its total trade has grown from \$1,998,000,000 in 1851 to \$5,395,000,000 in 1886, and to \$8,000,000,000 in 1910—of which \$6,100,000,000 belonged to the United Kingdom; it possesses, or controls, through its central clearing-house at London, the greater part of the money wealth of the world.

In population the British Empire exceeds all empires of the past and all nations or combination of countries in the present. It has an estimated population of 410,000,000, of which the white or ruling race totals 60,000,000; it includes amongst the people owing allegiance to the King-Emperor twice as many Mahommedans as those under the rule of the Turkish Sultan, with more than 200,000,000 Hindus in India and 7,000,000 Buddhists, while amongst its white population Protestantism dominates, with about 10,000,000 Roman Catholics. This infinite variety of races and creeds which find, in most cases, toleration and equality under the British flag, constitutes at once the greatest problem and, in its partial solution, the greatest source of pride in the modern history and government of the Empire.

The history of India under the Crown is the most extraordinary record in the world's annals of an alien and conquering race governing with small military forces, but with unwavering justice and unquestioned honour and honesty amongst its units of rule, a vast, complex, divergent, sullen and ignorant mass of three hundred millions of many races and of innumerable creeds; the history of modern Egypt and the Soudan is one of change under British administration



from days of unlimited corruption and universal oppression to the present time when the Nile is made a continuous blessing, the Assouan Dam is a marvellous engineering fact, and a British cathedral has been completed at Khartoum by the efforts of Lord Kitchener in what has become the prosperous capital of a great and peaceful dependency of the Empire.

Constitutionally the Empire has at its heart and centre the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, with its Sovereign as the recognized head of every country under the Flag, with a heavily-burdened Parliament, and complex problems of national, municipal, Imperial and Indian administration, Foreign Affairs and Defence, issues of peace and war for a quarter of the earth's population. The self-governing British countries are the Dominion of Canada, the Commonwealth of Australia, the Union of South Africa, the Dominion of New Zealand and the Island of Newfoundland. Then there are the Crown Colonies, with various degrees of local or Imperial administration, such as Basutoland, British Central Africa, Nigeria, Gambia, the Gold Coast, Rhodesia, Sierra Leone, the Mauritius, Seychelles, Ascension, St. Helena and Falkland Islands in Africa, or in the African seas, the Straits Settlements, Federated Malay States, Hong Kong, North Borneo, Brunei, and Sarawak in the Asiatic circle, and the West Indies, British Guiana, Bermuda and British Honduras in the American sphere. The Protectorates include Bechuanaland, Somaliland, East Africa, Uganda, Zanzibar, Nyassaland and, practically, Egypt, the Soudan and Ceylon. Wei-hai-Wei, Gibraltar and Malta are essentially fortifications, although the people in the two islands have considerable powers of self-government; the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands have peculiar constitutions and claims of their own; Fiji, Papua and the Pacific Islands are loosely classed as being in Oceania, and are grouping themselves under local Australasian control.

The Indian Empire is in a class by itself, with a Department of State in the British Government devoted to its affairs and advised by a special Council, with a Viceroy holding almost autocratic authority in some respects and yet having a local Council of mixed legislative, administrative and advisory power in other respects. It comprises British Provinces with a total population in 1911 of 244 millions, and Native States having in that year 70 million people.



There are in all fifty-six British Governors ruling these far-flung regions, with varied powers and authority.

Such at a glance is the British Empire. Behind that great structure is a long history of individual daring and personal toil, national diplomacy and statecraft, military and naval skill and success, with occasional disaster, unremitting commercial and financial expansion, great movements of population. With it rests enormous responsibility, on its behalf there labour untold, and, often unrewarded, statecraft and personal sacrifice. Everywhere the Empire touches other nations and an infinite complexity of rival interests; everywhere, and all the time, British diplomacy is in action and the *prestige* of naval supremacy in demand; in all parts of the world the British flag stands for justice and the gradual growth of liberty. As Kipling puts it:

The dead, dumb fog hath wrapped it—the frozen dews have  
kissed—

The naked stars have seen it, a fellow-star in the mist—  
What is the Flag of England? Ye have but my breath to  
dare,

Ye have but my waves to conquer; go forth, for it is there.

**Empire Traditions, Loyalty, and Sentiment**      The British Empire is of modern growth; its traditions are a development of centuries. From the heart of a man the blood circulates; from the heart of the Empire comes to the veins of British people everywhere the record of a thousand years of struggle in their Island home for unity and power, for civil and religious freedom, for commercial expansion and territorial acquisition, for control of the seas and defence of liberty in many lands, for the evolution of a great literature and a powerful press, for the alleviation of poverty, ignorance, misery and class controversy. All these things have merged themselves into what may be termed traditions—something which cannot be separately acquired except under conditions of a world-wide character that can never recur; something which the United States lost and can never regain; something which most men instinctively recognize—though not always clearly or consciously—when they see the Union Jack flying in the breeze; something which Empire Day embodies and is established to preserve.



The spirit involved finds a special place in the Irishman's feeling, wherever he may be in the Empire, when he reads of Burke and Grattan, Curran and Sheridan, Goldsmith and Moore, Maclise and Swift, Canning and Wellington and Roberts; in the Englishman's heart when inherited pride makes him glory in the special national production of Shakespeare and Tennyson, Queen Elizabeth and Queen Victoria, Dickens and Bulwer Lytton, Clive and Wolfe, Pitt and Palmerston, Gladstone and Beaconsfield; it makes a Scotchman thrill at the memory of Bruce or Wallace, of Burns and Walter Scott, of Prince Charlie and Dundee, of Knox and a thousand others. The whole Empire inherits these names and records and a myriad others—Gordon and Rhodes and Kitchener in Africa, Bentinck and Hastings, Wellesley and Dalhousie in India, Sir Henry Parkes in Australia, Richard J. Seddon in New Zealand, or Sir John Macdonald in Canada.

With traditions in which are summed up all that makes history and nationality great, continued development easy, the laws of liberty clear, and patriotism a pleasure, has come down through centuries loyalty to a Monarchical system which seems to have embodied and concentrated within itself all the pride of the British realms, while presenting a practical and rallying centre for Imperial unity and to the world a dignified and stable head of this vast aggregation of nations and dependencies, continents and islands. The Monarchy is the chief link of union in our chain of modern Empire, the embodiment of British power and British history; in Canada, Australia, South Africa and the other self-governing or partly self-governing lands, it is the one institution received from Great Britain which, with rare unanimity, has been free from popular or party criticism; to people in all these countries it has been a living, vital force in the evolution of British loyalty and in the creation of a national sentiment which has made possible the permanent unity of the Empire. Under and within this system of limited monarchy, which found its birthplace in the United Kingdom, and now finds its roots in such distant and varied soils, there has grown up a set of abstract ideas and concrete realities called "British institutions." To them all are loyal in Canada, and in them are merged the popular regard and respect for that Parliamentary system of which the Crown is so essential a part and of devoted adherence to that responsible or Cabinet



method of administration in which the King or his representative is so necessary a feature.

Historically the Monarchy has done much for the British people. Its influence has affected their whole national life in war and in peace, in religion and in morals, in literature and in art. The individual achievements and actions of some of these rulers constitute the very foundation stones in the structure of modern British power. Others again have helped to build the walls of the national and Imperial edifice by both policy and personality. At first the Monarchical principle took the form of military power, was based upon feudal loyalty, and was associated with the noble ideals, but somewhat reckless practices, of mediæval chivalry. The victories of Egbert and Alfred the Great transformed the Heptarchy into a substantial English Kingdom. The military skill of William the Conqueror gave an opportunity to blend the graces of Norman chivalry, and a somewhat higher form of civilization, with the rougher virtues of the Saxon character. Henry II. and Richard Cœur de Lion, Edward I. and Edward III. and Henry V. were the other great leaders of this period. The reign of Henry VIII. commenced a time of religious controversy and political change which did not close till the reign of William III., and, in which the Sovereigns on one side or the other exercised wide and varied influence. With the third period of the British Monarchy there began under George I. the growth of constitutional liberty at home, the foundation and acquisition of the Empire abroad. The latter part of Queen Victoria's reign was marked by the beginning of a gradual reconstruction and re-organization of the vast realms which had by that time been acquired and in part developed.

Out of all this history and progress has come the sentiment which is marked by Empire Day celebrations. In them, it must be remembered, are merged the triumphs of Peace as well as War. If British power is world-wide, so is everlasting peace amongst all its 400,000,000 people, and continuous progress in the pursuits of peace. In this latter connection, also, are many traditions of voluntary labour, organized action, patient perseverance, great accomplishment. The prison reforms of John Howard in England, the abolition of slavery through the life-work of Wilberforce, in and by many countries as well as Britain, the amelioration of the Crim-



inal Code by Samuel Romilly, the promotion of popular education by Lord Brougham, the legislation of Lord Shaftesbury in aid of miners and others, the penny postage of Sir Rowland Hill and its ultimate Empire-wide evolution, the removal of duties, taxes and restrictions upon the press, the discovery and application of steam to land transport by Watt and Stephenson, are a few out of the multitude of elements entering into this branch of the subject. Pride in Imperial power, progress, and peace, and effort for the permanent establishment of these great objects are, in short, at the base of the Empire Day ideal.

**The Navy  
and the  
Empire.**

So far as the present British Empire is concerned the Army may appear a matter of history—though an intensely interesting one. The days of Crecy and Poitiers and Plassey, of Clive and Lake and Colin Campbell, of Malplaquet, or Waterloo, or the Heights of Abraham, of Marlborough and Wellington, seem in a commercial age to be very distant. They are not really so, despite the smallness of Britain's standing force of 250,000 on a peace footing and the lack of an aggressive Foreign policy. The South African War showed nearly half a million men in the field, derived from all parts of the Empire, and this force is capable of very elastic adjustment to conditions. In this connection the words are worth remembering of C. N. Evans, of Port Hope, a young Canadian writing to his father shortly before his death in the Hart's River fight of March 31, 1902: "Many a good man has died for his Flag, and why should not I? If parents had not given their sons and sons had not given themselves to the British Empire it would not, to-day, be the proud dictator of the world."

It is, however, the Navy that gives Great Britain the control of the seas, the leadership of Europe, the primacy of the world. Without the Navy Britain could not hold indefinitely her ports and harbours, her vantage grounds for commerce and defence in all parts of the globe, or see the 8,000 million dollars' worth of British commerce floating yearly upon every sea, or crossing every land and passing under every flag, in a peace so profound and a safety so clear that her own people forget the reason. Without the Navy in efficient, powerful, and superior form the whole vast fabric of British credit, and trade, and a wealth lately estimated for



the British Isles at 70,000 million dollars, with investments abroad (1910) of \$15,960,000,000—of which one-half is within the Empire—would be subject to threats of war, and possibly actual conflict. Even the serious danger of invasion would be vitally injurious to so delicate a mechanism as the credit system of this Empire at its heart in London; real invasion, in the absence or destruction of the Fleet, would be fatal to **not only the accumulated wealth of Britain, but to the financial sinews of the Colonial Empire and the development which now comes from the fructifying streams of British capital.** And this apart from any actual conquest of the outer British countries or the destruction of the vast wealth of ages which lies in India and which in any disruption of British power would become the loot of the invader or insurrectionist, the spoil of war and anarchy.

The great secret of sea power is a community of interest between the countries which control its pathways. With a dominant British Navy the oneness of the waters of the world means a common interest and the permanent unity of the Empire. This supremacy has not been challenged since the Maritime energies of England—evolved during Elizabethan days in the exploits of a Drake or Hawkins, a Raleigh or Grenville, embodied in the defeat of the Spanish Armada and extended through countless battles and Maritime exploits—culminated at Trafalgar in an undisputed predominance upon the waterways of the world. Since then the carrying power of the ships of the world has increased from 3,000,000 tons (1820) to 20,000,000 tons in 1881, and to 41,000,000 tons in 1911. Of this latter total the British Empire had 19,012,294 tons. To protect its own great commerce and that of the external Empire, to guard the *prestige* of the Flag and enforce the diplomatic utterance of the greatest of world-powers, to protect its own vast wealth and the still greater though undefined potential wealth and natural resources of Canada, Australia, South Africa and other British regions, to hold a quarter of the world in subjection to just laws and principles of developing liberty, **to protect the food supplies of the 45,000,000 people in the British Isles, to meet the alleged new Naval challenge of Germany with its immense military force of 4,500,000 men, Great Britain in 1911 spent \$221,900,000 upon its Navy and the outside Empire about \$10,000,000.**



The British fleets of to-day represent a capital expenditure of \$1,000,000,000 of money and at least \$50,000,000 more every year; centuries of skilled labour and careful training for officers and men; the scientific study of varied conditions in peace and war; the possession of fighting traditions, of an individual confidence and spirit which can only come from inherited experience. Besides all this Great Britain has concentrated within the boundaries of her Empire most of the great naval bases which, in the hands of a maritime power, naturally involve the control of the seas. Canada rests on the North Atlantic and North Pacific oceans, where Halifax and Esquimalt command a wide sweep of the seas, with coal in close proximity to each and splendid harbours available. The trans-continental railways of Canada provide part of a possible route to the East for British troops while on what is still the principal route—through the Mediterranean, Red Sea and Indian Ocean—Britain holds in Gibraltar, Malta, Bombay, Trincomalee, Singapore and Hong Kong a connected chain of fortified naval and coaling stations, most of which are impregnable to attack, and all of which are supplied with docks, harbours and vast stores of coal. This latter commodity is still the life of ships, the essence of success in naval wars, a prime factor in ocean supremacy.

On the alternative route to the East, around Africa, we hold Sierra Leone, St. Helena, Cape Town and Mauritius, at intervals amazingly well adapted to purposes of either peace or war; while at the ends of these two great routes of commerce and travel and strategy there are King George's Sound and Thursday Island off the Australian coast, and the splendid naval ports and harbours of Melbourne and Sydney, and Auckland in New Zealand. Westward, on the Atlantic, Halifax joins hand with Bermuda, St. Lucia and Jamaica, while, away to the south, the Falkland Islands dominate the Cape Horn route. Almost everywhere there are great coal deposits.

It is now stated by every authority of high standing who writes upon the British Empire, and notably by Captain A. T. Mahon of the United States, in his studies of Sea Power, that the life of this Empire depends upon its command of the sea, and that this command depends upon its readiness in up-to-date Battle Fleets. It is a truism to add that the existence of these expensive guardians of power and peace



depends upon a sound naval policy, endorsed by an active and educated public opinion. In this condition the British Colonies share, whether they appreciate the fact or not; into the associated controversies they are now being forced by local political developments in Canada, Australia and elsewhere; regarding the situation all Canadians can echo the words of Tennyson:

Her dauntless army scattered and so small,  
 Her Islànd myriads fed from alien lands,  
 The Fleet of England is her all-in-all;  
 Her Fleet is in your hands; And in her Fleet is fate.

**The Empire's Wealth and Investments.**      The tangible wealth of the British Empire—that which can be counted and estimated by clear valuation—is said by competent statisticians to be 110,000 millions. It is composed of a system of credit and values which depend, in turn, upon the power of the Empire's Navy and the devotion of its parts to the whole; of enormous Bank deposits and Government, Municipal and corporate securities, with a commerce running into thousands of millions; of a present Agricultural, Mineral and Industrial product which is only at the great beginning of its possibilities and expansion. It includes the long-seated industries, commerce and financial accumulations of Great Britain; the vast wheatfields, mineral resources, fisheries and forests of Canada; the diamonds and gold and cotton and feathers and ivory of southern or northern Africa; the wool and gold and silver and teeming trade activities of Australia; the wheatfields, the cotton and untold, unmeasured, hoarded riches of India; the sugar of the West Indies; the iron ore of Newfoundland; the varied and special local wealth of islands and possessions around the world.

Into all these sources of wealth and natural riches British subjects, outside of the United Kingdom, have come at an expense to the Mother-Country of the greater part of her present National Debt of 3,400 million dollars and of hundreds of millions more which have been paid off by the British taxpayer during the 19th Century. From the Mother-Country they are now, also, receiving enormous sums for investment in Government works and undertakings, in development and transportation, for corporations and muni-



cipalities. In 1910 there was a total of 2,000 millions of British money invested in Canada along these lines, and in the rest of the British Dominions and India, 5,700 millions more. In other words, British Colonial countries, with a white population of about 12,000,000, had received from Great Britain as large a sum of her total invested wealth abroad as had all Europe, the 100-million people of the United States, and all the rest of the world. During 1905-09 over \$600,000,000 had poured into Canada alone. These facts may be considered as a tribute to the credit of the Colonies, to the resources of the countries concerned, to the character of the people themselves; but, above all else, they were due to the fact that, other things being fairly equal, money followed the Flag, and accepted as a permanent condition the strength and security which British power, prestige and Naval supremacy gave to each country and interest concerned.

**What Great Britain Has Done for Canada.** The situation in this respect may be briefly summarized. When Canada was in its birth-pains of United States revolution, invasion and attempted conquest, Great Britain was unstinted in her supply of blood and men and money; when our youthful nation, that was to be, needed soldiers to support its growth and maintain its interests and hold its territory, British troops and fortifications were maintained here at an expenditure of \$300,000,000 during the Nineteenth Century; when our growing commerce became a matter of international concern, as our vast unbroken territories had so long been an object of international cupidity, it rested securely within the scope of Britain's naval supremacy; when British dignity and Canadian feeling were shamed by the Trent affair, 10,000 British soldiers came to Canada as fast as ships could bring them here.

If Canadian settlers needed roads and canals and bridges in early days, British money supplied most of them; if the Indians for half a century required expensive coddling and yearly gifts and payments, the money was provided by Great Britain; if our churches wanted vast sums for pioneer work and continued development, British voluntary societies contributed some \$100,000,000 during the Nineteenth Century; if railways, such as the Intercolonial, had to be constructed,



at a period when Provincial credit was poor and inter-Provincial unity a dream, Great Britain guaranteed the loans to a total amount of \$25,000,000; if in recent years countless enterprises, private and national, required money, it has been freely accorded in London up to a present total of \$2,000,000,000 which is invested in the Dominion; if we wanted to build canals, or construct a Canadian Pacific, or a Grand Trunk Railway, or a Canadian Northern, or a Grand Trunk Pacific, we have readily obtained the money in London at a rate of interest and with a facility which no small nation not under the British flag, and not having British power and stability to guarantee its position, could possibly have commanded; if, since Confederation, our trade upon the seas of the world, totalling over \$6,300,000,000, has never been disturbed by threats or the probability of danger, it was due to the protection of the Imperial Navy; if the French-Canadian people to-day have the full and free exercise of their religion, their laws and perfect racial equality, it is due to British guarantees of liberty in the beginning, with British constitutional instincts in the rest of the Canadian people, since that time. In short, all Canadians now most fully recognize that the greatest privilege in the world—that of being a British citizen—and the most vital world-force in promoting and ensuring peace and advancing the progress of our common civilization, are alike bound up in British power. In the words which Charles Mair, the Canadian poet-dramatist, puts into the mouth of Brock:

Then forward for our cause and Canada!  
 Forward for Britain's Empire—peerless arch  
 Of Freedom's raising, whose majestic span  
 Is axis to the world! On, on, my friends,  
 The task our country sets must we perform—  
 Wring peace from war, or perish in its storm.

**Thoughts for Empire Day.** The British Government of India has maintained peace among its 315 millions of rival races and creeds, suppressed Thuggism and the Suttee, diminished infanticide and famine, administered affairs with justice and honesty through the finest Civil Service in the world, covered the country with a network of railways and irrigation canals, proclaimed King George as Emperor in the seat of ancient power—Delhi.



Australian statesmen of the highest character and reputation, whose names should be known to Canadians, include Sir Henry Parkes, George Higginbotham, James Service, Alfred Deakin, Sir Alfred Stephen, Sir Samuel James Way, Sir Edmund Barton, Rt. Hon. Sir G. H. Reid.

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In the development of the modern Empire the rival principles of Free-trade and Protection and the complex one of Preference, have had full play. Great Britain was protectionist until 1846, and free-trade, or rather free in all home-producing imports, since that time; Australia is moderately protectionist, with a low tariff and a preference for the United Kingdom; New South Wales was for many years devoted to free-trade principles, and its neighbour, Victoria, to protectionist practice; Canada had a preference in the British market up to 1846, and free trade in natural products with the United States between 1854-66, incidental protection in 1859-72, practically a revenue tariff from that time to 1879, protection since then, with a preference in favour of the Empire from 1898; South Africa, in its new Union, has a slightly protective policy and a small British preference; India is kept by British policy a free-trade country, with revenue duties.

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The links of union or unifying influence between Britain and the external Empire include thousands of yearly emigrants and the outpouring of British capital; the visits of Royalty and public or religious leaders to the Dominions and of Colonial statesmen and business men to Great Britain; the growing community of interest between the Labour organizations of Great Britain and those of Canada and Australia; the ever-cheapening cost of ocean transport, Imperial postage, and telegraph or cable rates; the increasing Colonial consumption of British journals and magazines and books; the holding of frequent Congresses of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire and the inter-Imperial meetings of Anglican Synods, Œcumenical Councils, General Assemblies, and Missionary or Bible Societies; the competitions of skill in shooting, rowing, cricket, curling or other sports; the inter-change of military officers amongst the Dominions, and such visits as that of the Toronto Queen's Own Rifles to England.



Great Britain through its possession of India is the greatest of Asiatic Powers; through its organization of South Africa and possessions in the north, east, and west of that Continent, it is the greatest of African Powers; through the allegiance of Canada, added to its own wealth, resources, and naval strength, it is the greatest of American Powers; through the extent and strength of its Empire as a whole and its national wealth and naval strength, it is the greatest of European Powers.

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Chartered Companies of enterprising, daring men had much to do with the creation of the Empire. The Hudson's Bay Company acquired and held the mighty west of Canada at a time when it was thought of only as a wilderness of snow and ice and fur-bearing animals; the East India Company acquired, ruled, partially organized and nearly lost (1857) the Indian Empire; the British South Africa Company founded Rhodesia and helped to make the South African Union of to-day possible.

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The abolition of slavery cost Great Britain £30,000,000 paid as indemnities; disinclination to follow this wise example cost the United States the Civil War, with its enormous expenditures, great loss of life, and the subsequent immense Pension List.

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To the British Navy Canada has contributed men such as Admiral Sir Provo Wallis, Admiral Sir G. A. Westphal, Admiral Sir E. W. C. R. Owen, Vice-Admiral Sir Edward Belcher and, in the British Army, General Sir Fenwick Williams, the hero of Kars, Major-General Sir J. E. W. Inglis, the hero of Lucknow, General Sir Gordon Drummond, the veteran of 1812, Lieut.-General Sir Richard England and Lieut.-General Sir C. W. Robinson—are names which honour Canadian families and a Canadian birthplace. In modern years, too, the Royal Military College of Kingston has contributed 172 officers to the Imperial Forces.

One of the vital stages in the slowly-evolving unity of the Empire has been the creation and success of the Colonial Conference system. Beginning in 1887 and 1897 as meetings of Colonial Premiers in attendance at the Jubilee celebrations of those years, it met in 1902 with enlarged representation and subjects of consideration. In 1907 the Conference became an Imperial one with a permanent membership, a meeting to be held at least once in every four years, and the Prime Minister of Great Britain as its President. In 1909 a Defence or subsidiary Conference was held, and in 1910 the regular meeting of the Imperial Conference took place in London. It is now, practically, a part of the constitution of the Empire.

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